

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An extendable and contractable steering column apparatus includes an outer column through which an inner column is slidably inserted, a lock housing portion formed on the outer column, and a locking mechanism that includes a pair of movable pieces slidably fitted within a cylinder bore formed in the lock housing portion. The locking mechanism shifts the pair of movable pieces toward each other so as to press the inner column and shifts the pair of movable pieces away from each other so as to release the pressure on the inner column, in response to swinging of an operating lever. The cross section of the cylinder bore of the lock housing portion is non-circular and the cross sections of said pair of movable pieces are also non-circular correspondingly.